

**Minutes of the
U.S. Department of Commerce
Commerce Spectrum Management Advisory Committee
July 14, 2008**

Meeting Date and Time:

July 14, 2008, 1:30 PM

Location:

ArrayComm LLC
2480 N. First Street
San Jose, California

Committee Members in Attendance:

Dale N. Hatfield (Co-chair, by phone), Bryan Tramont (Co-chair), Dr. David Borth, Martin Cooper, Mark Crosby (by phone), James B. Goldstein (by phone), Robert M. Gurss (by phone), John Hoadley (by phone), Dr. Kevin C. Kahn, Dr. James Andrew Lewis, Darrin M. Mylet, Janice Obuchowski, Dr. Robert Pepper, Jennifer Warren.

NTIA Staff:

Meredith Baker, Acting Assistant Secretary for Communications and Information
Karl Nebbia, Associate Administrator, Office of Spectrum Management
Eric Stark, Associate Administrator, Office of Policy Analysis and Development and Designated Federal Officer
Joseph L. Gattuso, Committee Liaison

Public Attendance:

Members of the public attended both by phone and in person.

Meeting Agenda:

Call to Order

Co-chair Bryan Tramont welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Opening Remarks

Following introductions, co-chair Tramont turned the floor over to NTIA Acting Assistant Secretary (A/S) Meredith Baker. A/S Baker thanked Martin Cooper and ArrayComm for providing the meeting space and thanked the CSMAC for its ongoing work, and emphasized how valuable its contributions have been. She announced that NTIA will be considering reappointments in the coming months and would soon publish a Federal Register notice seeking new applicants.

A/S Baker said that the CSMAC may meet twice more before the end of its term, possibly once in September and once in December/January. She also requested that the CSMAC prepare a report about both NTIA and FCC spectrum accomplishments to prepare for the transition and to prepare the next Administration to continue these accomplishments and with improvements in federal and non-federal spectrum going forward. She explained that this report should not only highlight what has been accomplished, but also how to put the recommendations of the CSMAC into practice. Finally, she asked that the report review the work of the CSMAC to date and make recommendations for improvements in its next term.

Committee Tasks

Working Group 4: Transition of Federal Land Mobile Radio Systems to Increase Spectral Efficiency

John Hoadley presented a draft of Working Group 4's paper and explained that the report focused on two bands of LMR spectrum, totaling 27 MHz. Members discussed the inclusion into the report of both cross-border coordination issues and mixed-use band issues. Mr. Hoadley asked for comments on the draft in the next few weeks so that he could coordinate a conference call to write another draft in August and have the final report ready for the September meeting of the CSMAC.

Working Group 2: Recommendations for Streamlining Federal and Non-Federal Sharing

Mark Crosby said that the group had made significant progress and had received feedback since the last meeting. Robert Gurss agreed and said that the group had been active with edits to its draft paper, which was close to being completed. Karl Nebbia requested that the group look at the language used in the paper in order to ensure that certain technical terms, such as allocation and assignment, were used properly, in order to provide the greatest degree of clarity.

Mr. Gurss said he hoped to have one more meeting of the working group in order to decide which changes to accept, so as to have a draft ready for voting. Mr. Tramont noted that it would be possible to adopt the report by some inter-meeting measure, rather than waiting until the September CSMAC meeting to adopt the report.

Report of Subcommittee on Operational Efficiency

Dr. Lewis presented the subcommittee's draft report, stating that it sets out two recommendations: that the NTIA explore further ways to expand sharing, and that the NTIA examine market mechanisms that could make spectrum management more efficient, including Administered Incentive Pricing (AIP). There was discussion by committee members on the issue of market mechanisms and fees, particularly on the issue of whether the report should recommend the further investigation or adoption of AIP. Mr. Tramont summarized by saying Dr. Lewis would hold another conference call with the goal of getting something completed by the September meeting. Dr. Lewis said that his goal would be to either complete a paper that would set out the points that the working group had consensus on or, in the alternative, it would

list both sets of opinions, with recommendations. Mr. Tramont requested that the paper be completed before the September meeting.

Working Group 1: Spectrum Efficiency Task

Dr. Kevin Kahn reported on the progress of his Working Group 1's draft, stating that it was unlikely the report would ever reach a prescriptive definition of "efficiency" because of the non-uniform nature of the problem across different platforms. He said that his group would benefit from contribution by other members. Ms. Warren said she would attempt to find generic studies dealing with improvement over time of certain radar systems.

Working Group 3: Improving the Process of Identifying Potential Spectrum for Future Reallocation; Submission of Report

Mr. Tramont said that at the last meeting Working Group 3 presented a draft report. He said that it had subsequently been supplemented with additional inputs from the commercial parties who participate in the CSEA, from NTIA, and from licensees in the 70, 80, 90 GHz bands, as well as edits from CSMAC members. He said that he had discussed further edits with Ms. Warren. He moved that the CSMAC adopt the report and grant editorial privileges, which on a voice vote was approved unanimously. Mr. Tramont said he would make any necessary edits and submit a finalized report in the following days.

Working Group 5: Implementation of Circular A-11

Janice Obuchowski discussed the status of the working group's efforts on a draft paper. She said that the group had been interviewing many of the most engaged agencies about OMB Circular A-11, where it currently stands, and how they are approaching its implementation. She noted that the draft reflects the results of these conversations, and also clarification and editing of the recommendations. Ms. Obuchowski said that in the next few weeks the group planned to interview additional agencies, with a follow-on committee call after that. She said the goal would be to have something for the September meeting.

Scheduling of Next Meeting

After discussion, co-chair Tramont and the members present agreed to schedule the next CSMAC meeting for Friday, September 19th at 9:30 AM in Washington, DC.

Public Comment Period

The floor was opened to public comment. No comments were made. The co-chairs acknowledged the receipt of a single e-mailed comment, which was distributed to members in their briefing books. Co-chairs Hatfield and Tramont agreed to consider the comments to the extent they are relevant to the CSMAC.

Adjournment

Co-chair Tramont thanked the members for attending and specifically Martin Cooper for hosting the meeting, whereupon the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Date:
Eric Stark
Designated Federal Officer

I hereby certify that these minutes of the April 30, 2008 Commerce Spectrum Management Advisory Committee are true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Date:
Dale N. Hatfield
Co-Chair

Date:
Bryan Tramont
Co-Chair